



Marine Band San Diego supports annual Girl Scout cookie mission

BY STAFF SGT. JEFF JANOWIEC
Chevron staff

Marine Band San Diego sent a delegate of five Marines to the locally harbored USS Midway on Saturday where they provided patriotic music for the Girl Scout Operation Thin Mint 2006 Sendoff Celebration.

Girl Scouts by the hundreds, troop leaders and parents gathered on the large carrier's deck and surrounded the center stage waving miniature American flags while the brass quintet played patriotic music. The girls met on the ship as a formal way to send massive quantities of cookies sold throughout the year to the troops deployed overseas.

Bill Donovan from Chula Vista, Calif. said his daughter's Troop 5902 sold more than 1,000 boxes to help support the cookie drive for the troops.

"The gal who's tops in our troop sold over 400 boxes," said Donovan.

Although 1,000 was a hefty number of boxes, it was only half of that of the top cookie-selling Troop 1491, which sold 2,006 boxes for the effort.

Combined, the 30,000 girls and 10,000 adult volunteers in the San Diego-Imperial Council, Inc. Girl Scouts sold an impressive 194,762 boxes of cookies, according to Mary Doyle, the council's director of communications.

The cookies will be sent overseas in five refrigerated containers, via the military logistics system, to places where troops are in Iraq, Afghanistan, Japan, Korea and Singapore, according to Doyle.

She also said that a shipment of cookies took port and departed from Singapore on Sunday and should reach its destination of Bahrain on May 24 after a stop at the United Arab Emirates.



One of the guest speakers at the event was a veteran of current operations overseas Maj. Gen. Michael R. Lehnert, commanding general, Marine Corps Installations West, Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif.

He told the girls many of the cookies would be smashed up and some would be melted by the time they reached their destinations, and that it didn't matter to the troops.

"It matters to them that you thought enough to send them," said Maj. Gen. Lehnert.

He mentioned they would still eat the cookies whether they were smashed up or not.

Girl Scouts wrote notes during Operation Thin Mint that were sent along with the cookies to support the troops in their efforts during the War on Terror.

"This is a community service project to give the troops a taste of home and a note to show we care," said Doyle.

She remarked that since the operation started, the girls have sold and distributed more than 800,000 boxes of cookies, and she was confident they would sell and send their one millionth box in 2007.

To end the ceremony, the top cookie-selling Troop 1491's girls were escorted to a sleek, private helicopter on the aft of the ship's deck as the Marine brass quintet played "The U.S. Air Force March" to send them off for a trip around San Diego. The group of about 1,000 people waved their flags and cheered as the helicopter rose and whirled off the carrier.



Marine Band San Diego's brass quintet serenades Girl Scouts at Operation Thin Mint, an annual mission that has sent nearly one million boxes of cookies to troops overseas. *Staff Sgt. Jeff Janowiec/Chevron*



Company B recruits viciously tussle in the Thunder Dome, an enclosed area in which recruits practice close bayonet techniques. *Lance Cpl. Dorian Gardner/Chevron*

THUNDER DOME

Recruits battle with pugil sticks

BY LANCE CPL. DORIAN GARDNER
Chevron staff

With a helmet, some pads and a cushioned stick, recruits from Company B battled one another as they honed their skills to be named the victors of pugil sticks.

Every Marine in boot camp undergoes this exercise. During this event, which simulates fighting with an M-16 A2 service rifle with fixed bayonets, recruits were shown proper techniques and execution with the weapon.

Though this combat simulation is a part of the Marine Corps Martial Arts Program, it serves a different purpose.

"It is a designed inoculation of violence," said Sgt. Sergio Esquivel, martial arts instructor. "A lot of recruits have never been put in a situation where people try to attack them. This introduces them to a different spectrum of violence."

Before the fight began, recruits were given safety gear to avoid injury. Their safety gear included a helmet with full face mask, groin protection and flak jacket with a neck roll. The stick they used was also padded around their hands to circumvent broken phalanges.

To ensure the recruits executed moves properly, a Martial Arts Instructor was present.

For the recruits to pass this intense training, they must demonstrate

SEE **Thunder**, pg. 4



**CELEBRATE ASIAN/
PACIFIC ISLANDER
HISTORY MONTH**

RECRUIT SPOTLIGHT

He made it through the Crucible in 2005, but that wasn't enough. After recovering from sickness, he's back in recruit training and at the top of his company.

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9-Ball tourney:
Can RTR repeat?

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Day Hall staff educates future Marines on WWII

BY LANCE CPL. KAITLYN M. SCARBORO
Chevron staff

As they walk into the room, they catch sight of the hand grenades sitting next to a box of bubblegum cigarettes and a World War II lighter. They sit around a table of weapons, in front of a large map of Island X awaiting their first brief, their first mission, before they have even made it to boot camp.

Applicants of Recruiting Substation Pasadena, Recruiting Station Los Angeles, Calif. were awed by the displays of World War II weaponry and invited to participate in a historical adventure to Island X, which was featured through a presentation of the Battle of Iwo Jima, at James L. Day Hall, the depot command museum.

“First, I tell them history takes imagination,” said JoAnna McDonald, depot museum education specialist. It’s 1945, and you’re on a Navy ship off the coast of Iwo Jima; and then their eyes get really big.”

The education program was started in support of recruits’ education, the continued education of Marines and as a bridge to the civilian community in accordance with the intent of Brig. Gen. John M. Paxton Jr., commanding general of Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego and the Western Recruiting Region, according to the museum’s director, Barbara McCurtis.

Almost a year old, the program features two tiers: an out-reach program allowing McDonald to bring her lessons to the classroom with live footage, and an in-house program complete with artifacts, demilitarized weaponry and a guided tour.

Complimenting the curriculum already taught by the high school teachers of San Diego County, the program subject matter ranges from Women in Marine Corps History, Battles of Iwo Jima and Belleau Wood to the history of military uniforms and more, according to McDonald.

“My goal is to be able to help the civilian teacher with their curriculum so the young people can see history isn’t boring,” said McDonald. “It can sometimes take a simple one-hour presentation to change a student’s outlook on history.”

During the interactive presentation, McDonald expanded on the lesson plans of the local teachers, encouraged students to ask questions and allowed them to handle the weapons.

Intrigued at the opportunity to see weapons in a museum that weren’t behind glass, the Pasadena poolers were anxious to touch the weapons lying on the table.

“Some of them have never touched a weapon in their entire life before,” said Sgt. Marcus M. McKinstry, RSS Pasadena recruiter. “A couple of them are history buffs. The ones that didn’t know anything learned a whole lot today.”

At the end of the presentation, a veteran docent guided a tour of the museum exhibits and answered follow-up questions.

Focusing on 20th century Marine Corps history, McDonald has presentations and lesson plans available for all scheduled visitors. Eager to entertain any curious mind, McDonald said she has presentations prepared for all high school level courses as well as any Junior Reserve Officers’ Training Corps programs.

To schedule a presentation and tour, contact McDonald at (619) 524-6038. For groups of 10 and more, contact Armando Marquez at (619) 524-8754.

Depot barbers recognized for decades of work

BY PFC. CHARLIE CHAVEZ
Chevron staff

Four depot barbers with nearly a century and a half of combined experience were recognized at the Recruit Barber Shop, May 4.

All together the barbers cut around 18,000 heads of hair a year. The gross figure is about 2,574,000 recruits who have passed under their careful, yet precise blades, which costs them each roughly two clippers a year, said Busalacchi.

Certificates of appreciation were awarded to barbers Mario A. Busalacchi, Andy Cesarini, Leonardo Herrera

and Humberto Ortiz for their work and service by Brig. Gen. John M. Paxton Jr., commanding general of Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego and the Western Recruiting Region.

The barbers find cutting the hair of future Marines a satisfying occupation and an interesting one as well. The many different cultures and people from around the country coming together to begin the Marine Corps journey is an interesting subject, said Cesarini.

Ortiz, Herrera and Cesarini have been cutting hair together on the depot since 1969. In 1978, Busalacchi joined them. Since the barbers have been present on

the depot, they have personally witnessed the transformation of recruits over the last few decades.

“It is just something about being in the start to finish of the recruit training that makes this job enjoyable,” said Busalacchi.

With many years of experience on the depot, the barbers have reunions with recruits returning as drill instructors who had their hair cut by them, said Busalacchi.

Commemorated and happy, the barbers look forward to more interesting conversations and thousands more heads of hair.

BRIEFS

San Diego Bulldog Detachment

The Marine Corps League San Diego Bulldog Detachment #835 is collecting money to help allow families to stay close to their wounded warriors at Naval Medical Center San Diego.

As the war in Iraq continues, more troops are being sent to the hospital, and accordingly, the Bulldog Detachment is looking to increase its capacity to help.

For more information, call Richard A. Williams at (619) 615-5336 or e-mail him at sdrich7777@aol.com

Lost and found

The Provost Marshal’s Office Crime Prevention Unit has a large quantity of lost and found articles that have remained unclaimed for a period of more than 45 days. These items will be disposed of if the owner is not located. If you have recently misplaced any property, please contact Sgt. Shad L. Begley at (619) 524-4128.

Thanks USA

ThanksUSA intends to award at least 1,000 scholarships in amounts of up to \$5,000 each. These need-based scholarships will be awarded on a competitive basis to the spouses and children of active duty military personnel who plan to pursue a post-secondary education, including vocational and technical training. Winners will be selected on the basis of financial need, academic record, demonstrated leadership and participation in school and community activities. Preference will also be given to students who have studied a foreign language. Interested applicants can find more information, eligibility requirements and the official application form at www.thanksusa.org. Applications will be accepted through May 30, 2006.

SEND BRIEFS TO jess.levens@usmc.mil. *The Chevron staff reserves the right to publish only those briefs that comply with Department of Defense regulations and the standards of the U.S. Government.*

during a military lifestyle. After advice on maintaining a healthy marital relationship during deployments, drill instructor duty and recruiting duty, the focus turned to realizing the goals of each individual spouse.

The coordinators took turns telling stories of ways they support their husbands and how proud they are of the Marine Corps.

“The little things are what’s important,” said Dawn Hughes, from Recruiting Station Seattle. “Like putting a sticky note on the mirror that says ‘I love you.’ I know I won’t get the chance to in the morning because he leaves too early.”

Evaluating what personal values were most important to themselves and identifying what goals they most wanted to attain, the coordinators turned to each other for support.

After discussions of how each coordinator wanted to achieve a goal, they were held accountable to the resolutions by keeping in contact with and informing another member of the group of their progress.

“I really believe if we help one family, the cycle begins and they remember it,” said Natalie Francisco, Family Team Building coordinator. “We are the voices of all military spouses.”

Through camaraderie, friendship, fun and support, the key volunteers learned valuable lessons in self-preservation that will allow them to take on the challenges of their spouses’ commands.



Lance Cpl. Chesty B. Puller, a 6-month-old bulldog, requested special permission through his humans friends to attend the Company M graduation May 5 and meet his heroine, Lance Cpl. Molly Marine, 4-year-old depot mascot. Pic: Charlie Chavez/Chevron

Fort Rosecrans National Cemetery commemorates Memorial Day

BY DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
Special to the Chevron

Fort Rosecrans National Cemetery will host its 106th Memorial Day program May 29 at 10 a.m.

“This ceremony and this day are dedicated to the brave men and women who have given their lives in defense of freedom while serving as members of America’s armed forces,” said Bill Livingston, Fort Rosecrans Cemetery director. “We honor the 23 Iraq and Afghanistan combat veterans as well as all veterans who have served and paid the ultimate sacrifice and are memorialized here at Fort Rosecrans Cemetery.” Members of the military, public officials, veterans from all branches of the military and others will be present at the ceremony.

“We invite the San Diego community to join us for this solemn, moving tribute to America’s heroes. It is our promise. It is our duty,” said Livingston. In addition, the ceremony will include music from the Marine Corps Band San Diego and the Heritage Kids Choir of San Diego, wreath laying, rifle salute, and a Civil War re-enactor cannon salute performed by the San Pasqual Battlefield Volunteer Association. Brig. Gen. John M. Paxton Jr., commanding general, Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego and the Western Recruiting Region, will present the Memorial Day Address.

The Memorial Day Ceremony is hosted by the Veterans Memorial Day Committee, a sub-committee of the San

Diego United Veterans Council and the Fort Rosecrans National Cemetery.

The Fort Rosecrans National Cemetery, with 77.5 acres of spectacular San Diego harbor panorama, maintains 90,500 interments. The cemetery was designated a national cemetery on October 5, 1934. Many Fort Rosecrans interments date to the early years of the California Territory, including the remains of the casualties of the battle of San Pasqual, shortly after the United States declared war on Mexico in May 1846.

The Fort Rosecrans National Cemetery is located in Point Loma, the southwest section of San Diego. From San Diego Municipal Airport travel to Point Loma west two miles to Rosecrans Street (California Highway 209) then south on Highway 209 approximately three miles to the cemetery.

A schedule of Memorial Day activities at the Fort Rosecrans National Cemetery follows:

Saturday, May 26

7:30 a.m. Placement of flags on 90,000 gravesites by Boy Scouts and Girls Scouts

Monday, May 29

9:30 a.m. Musical prelude by the Heritage Kids of San Diego

10:00 a.m. Memorial Day program begins

11:25 a.m. Program ends

For more information, contact William Livingston, Fort Rosecrans National Cemetery Director, at (619) 553-2084.



The depot’s rifle detail presents arms in a rifle salute to retired Maj. Gen. Kenneth J. Houghton, a renowned Marine Corps hero, at a special funeral service at Fort Rosecrans National Cemetery. Lance Cpl. Kaitlyn M. Scarboro/Chevron

CHAPLAIN’S CORNER

‘May your days seem like weeks, your weeks seem like months’

BY CMDR. MICHAEL G. MUELLER
Recruit Training Regiment chaplain

“But in the end, your months will seem like days.” These are the words many of the now Marines heard from me when they first came to Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego. In fact, they have heard many words repeated over and over the whole time they were going through recruit training.

They heard from me such things as: “There are two ways to live your life in this world – sit at home and watch CNN, or do what we do and have CNN watch you,” and “Religion is for people who don’t want to go to hell, but spirituality is for those who have been.” From the drill instructors they heard such things as ... ah, probably better if we leave that unsaid. From everyone they heard the words “Honor, courage and commitment.” From the most junior permanent staff member to the most senior, we conveyed that these are not just mere words, but threads in the fabric of our being.

Words have power in part by the conviction that lies behind them. Their power is felt by the way they are said, the passion behind their meaning and the emphasis that comes from the life experience of the speaker. Recruits at the depot hear the authority of the words spoken to them by seasoned Marines and sailors who have had the cameras of CNN on them, who have “gone to hell and back” and now stand before the future of the United States training them so the baton of freedom and democracy can be passed on to readied hands; consummate professionals who do not speak the words of our core values, but proclaim them daily by their actions and deeds.

Ask a newly graduated Marine or an 11th-week recruit if he believed my opening words when he first heard them. I would be surprised if any said anything other than “No.” But ask them if they believe them now. The other side of the power of words is in the appreciation and acceptance of the hearer.

To those who read the words in this short article, I say pay heed to this “old clergyman,” pray that your days do seem like weeks, and your weeks do seem like months, for in the end, life is not limitless and our days are numbered. While many a cliché surrounds this thought, we truly do pass this way but once. Let us make sure we make the most of it and speak the words we mean to speak and mean them when we speak them.

BY LANCE CPL. KAITLYN M. SCARBORO
Chevron staff

Key Volunteers Network coordinators from the depot and throughout the Western Recruiting Region attended a conference May 3-6 that was focused on self-care.

Individual coordinators from each of the depot battalions and the 8th, 9th and 12th Marine Corps Recruiting Districts were recognized for their contributions to the Marine community.

A highly recognized volunteer, Juanita Richards, was presented with a photo of her team crossing the finish line of an annual Boot Camp Challenge. During her time on the depot, Richards has encouraged military spouses to take an active role and make a difference whenever they can.

“When I volunteered the first time and I saw how appreciative they were, that just made me want to come back,” said Richards. “You can be involved, but there is no expectation of what you do. Every little bit of help is appreciated and needed.”

During the conference, the spouses attended a workshop called “Care for the Caregiver,” sponsored by the Western Recruiting Region Chaplains Religious Enrichment Development Opportunity.

The workshop focused on conflict mediation and self-care and showed the spouses ways to relax and ap-

preciate spending time alone.

“The Marine Corps Recruit Depot and Western Recruiting Region are blessed to have a dedicated group of key volunteers and family readiness officers,” said Navy Capt. J.W. Poole, depot chaplain. “They are highly engaged, enthusiastic and energized. This week I was inspired as I watched how well they worked together, shared innovative ideas and sought to improve themselves professionally and personally. Their professional commitment to support the staff and their families is phenomenal.”

During the Care for Caregivers workshop, each attendee received a Myers-Brigg Temperament Inventory sheet, which determined their individual personality types.

“We used it to help them identify their strengths and to emphasize the importance of taking care of yourself in order to be available to help others,” said Poole. “It’s okay to take care of yourself first.”

The volunteers’ conference concluded with a workshop that focused on inspiring the women to follow their dreams, while supporting strong and healthy relationships with their spouses. The lecture is the first part of the Marine Corps’ Spouse’s Learning Series, designed to help spouses with leadership skills.

“Follow your dreams while following the military” was a lecture by Kathie Hightower and Holly Scherer on ways to access and achieve desired goals that are attainable

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Two Company B recruits stare each other down before a pugil stick bout.

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proficient skill in three stages, which takes place over the last three weeks of first phase. During the first stage, Company B drill instructors and Instructional Training Company instructors demonstrated fighting techniques and then had recruits practice it on a flat dirt surface near the depot's war-fighting infiltration course, which is included in bayonet training. In the course, recruits low-crawl under barbed wire and through tunnels, jump walls and cross ropes in firing teams of four. Once recruits showed instructors they knew what they were doing, they were given their first opportunity to fight. "I liked it," said Recruit Jeremy Jones, Company E. "The feel of fighting and having the other recruits screaming for you. Even if you are scared, the recruits around you make you want to win." The thought of defeating another recruit from a different platoon in a pugil stick bout intensified the combat, especially when the drill instructors watched and encouraged the fierce battles, ac-

ording to Jones. After the first fight, a third man was thrown into the mix. Between the three recruits, each took a turn defending against two recruits and then teaming up to attack one recruit. The final stage of combat is fought in the Thunder Dome. Already fatigued from completing an infiltration course, recruits geared up and screamed down a path leading into a padded room. In this dome, recruits fought the final bout with drill instructors and company staff motivating them. The purpose of this training went beyond bragging rights and platoon rivalry. "It trains Marines to function when faced with stress and violence," according to pugil Sticks training guide, MA - 1.05. "It prepares Marines to deliver a blow and take a blow." Loud cheers and hard blows kept recruits fighting in the ring. Now experienced with their simulated rifle and bayonet, recruits are able to fight their enemies at a close range.



Drill instructor Staff Sgt. Elijah Buchanan lends some pre-bout motivation to Pvt. Tamir Zera, Platoon 1095, Company B, before his pugil stick match.



Pvt. Joshua Dover, Platoon 1099, Company B, prepares for an upcoming bout, in which recruits wear football helmets and other protection. *Lance Cpl. Dorian Gardner/Chevron photos*



Company B recruits anxiously wait for their turns to fight in the Thunder Dome.



Staff Sgt. Michael Bass, drill instructor, Company B, encourages his recruits to give full effort in the Thunder Dome.



A Company B recruit scores a finishing blow during a Thunder Dome pugil stick match.

'Knowing that I could get through the Crucible left me with a feeling of accomplishment, and I just wanted to finish.'

— Lance Cpl. Travis L. Gruber
Company G honor grad

Lance Cpl. Travis L. Gruber, Platoon 2077, Company G., walks along the platoon's formation during the battalion commander's final inspection of the company on Shepherd Memorial Drill Field Tuesday. During the inspection, recruits are tested on common Marine Corps knowledge and bearing.

Pfc. Charlie Chavez/ Chevron



RECRUIT SPOTLIGHT

Company G top grad overcomes illness, completes training after return to depot

BY PFC. CHARLIE CHAVEZ
Chevron staff

A recruit with Company G returned to the depot a second time determined to finish the recruit training he had started one-year ago.

A native of Ogden, Utah, Lance Cpl. Travis L. Gruber, Platoon 2077, was dropped after completing the Crucible in June 2005 – a prerequisite before recruit graduation – because of an illness resulting in asthmatic problems.

Sent to Naval Medical Center San Diego after becoming ill with pneumonia, he was diagnosed with asthma, which resulted in his separation from the Marine Corps, said Gruber.

Persistent with his desire to become a Marine, Gruber once again contacted recruiters in January 2006. He was tested for asthma, passed and was cleared to re-enlist.

“Knowing that I could get through the Crucible left me with a feeling of accomplishment, and I just wanted to finish,” said Gruber. “I know that freedom

isn’t free and I want to do my part for our country and for others.”

Gruber always accepted challenges as a child and knew what he wanted. He has a mind of his own and he brought himself to the Marine Corps all on his own, said Rick Gruber, his father.

His determination and his admiration of Marines helped Gruber to follow through with his aspirations to join the Marine Corps especially after a turning point in his life when he decided to become a Marine.

At the age of 11, while riding in a car with his mother, Gruber's vehicle was side swiped by a sport utility vehicle, which resulted in a ruptured fuel line and his vehicle in flames. Gruber and his mother were knocked unconscious and were saved from the vehicle by a Marine who also saved his mother from bleeding to death.

“My stepfather managed to contact him. The Marine just said that he was doing his job,” said Gruber. “That seemed more meaningful to me of why he saved our lives, and it showed me what kind of people Marines are.”

Gruber also found a role model in his stepfather,

Troy Parsons, who was a Marine scout sniper. The discipline and firmness that he raised Gruber with helped exemplify the Marine Corps in his eyes, said Gruber.

“He used to show us pictures of him in the Corps and he was disciplined; that really made me interested,” said Gruber.

Finding his way back to the depot, he now graduates with Co. G as the company honor man and the company's highest physical fitness test recruit, which he previously held while in training a year ago.

“He basically came into recruit training understanding the game plan,” said Staff Sgt. David L. Barrett, drill instructor, Platoon 2077, Co. G. “He is the most outstanding person in the company as well as a leader for the recruits in the platoon. His history is definitely something that exemplifies the Marine Corps, and he definitely found his way.”

Moving on to Marine Combat Training in Camp Pendleton, Calif., and ultimately more training to become an aviation mechanic, Gruber said he is looking forward to serving his country in the Fleet Marine Force.

Brig. Gen. Kevin M. Sandkuhler

PARADE REVIEWING OFFICER

Brigadier Gen. Kevin M. Sandkuhler is serving as the staff judge advocate to the Commandant of the Marine Corps.

Brig. Gen. Sandkuhler was commissioned a second lieutenant via the Navy Reserve Officer Training Corps Program in May 1975 after receiving his Bachelors of Arts degree in history from the College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, Mass.

Following The Basic School and the Field Artillery Officers Basic Course he was assigned to 3rd Battalion, 11th Marines, 1st Marine Division at Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif. During that assignment he served as a fire direction officer, platoon commander and adjutant. During July 1978, he was selected to attend law school under the Funded Law Education Program.

Brig. Gen. Sandkuhler attended California Western School of Law, San Diego from 1978-1981. While a student

he served as a sophistry instructor and a notes and comments editor, California Western International Law Journal. He received his juris doctorate (Cum Laude) in May 1981 and was admitted to the Bar of the State of California.

Following the Naval Justice School, he was assigned to the office of the Staff Judge Advocate, 1st Marine Division, Camp Pendleton. He served in a variety of judge advocate positions to include trial counsel, defense counsel, and deputy staff judge advocate. During November 1984, he was transferred to Okinawa and served with the 3rd Force Service Support Group as the officer in charge of the review section and deployed to Korea as the staff judge advocate for the 35th Marine Amphibious Unit. In January 1985, he was reassigned to Camp Pendleton.

At Camp Pendleton, Brig. Gen. Sandkuhler served as the senior defense counsel within the office of the Staff Judge Advocate. During November 1986, he became the director of the contracting division, Camp Pendleton and a contracting officer. In 1989, he was selected under the

Special Education Program to return to law school and received a Master of Laws degree in Government Contracts from George Washington University in 1991.








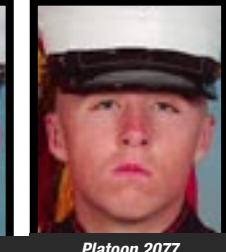
He was then assigned as an associate counsel within the Office of Counsel at Marine Corps Systems Command. In 1993 he attended the U.S. Army War College, Carlisle Barracks, Carlisle, Pa., and graduated during June 1994. Subsequently, he was assigned to the joint staff, where he served as a non-proliferation planner in the directorate for strategic plans and policy (J-5). During September 1997, he was transferred to 3rd Marine Expeditionary Force located on Okinawa, Japan and served as the staff judge advocate for the MEF and the 3rd Marine Division.

Upon his return to the United States, he became the director, appellate government division (Code 46) at the Navy and Marine Corps Appellate Review Activity, Washington, D.C. In July 2000, he became the chief defense counsel for the Marine Corps. He assumed his present duties on August 27, 2001.

His personal decorations include the



Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with gold star in lieu of second award, the Joint Achievement Medal and the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal.

 <i>Platoon 2077</i> COMPANY HONOR MAN Lance Cpl. T. L. Gruber Ogden, Utah Recruited by Staff Sgt. D. V. Velis	 <i>Platoon 2083</i> SERIES HONOR MAN Pfc. E. R. Crawford Phoenix Recruited by Sgt. M. G. Murray	 <i>Platoon 2078</i> PLATOON HONOR MAN Pfc. A. A. Gonzalez San Antonio Recruited by Staff Sgt. G. H. Padilla	 <i>Platoon 2079</i> PLATOON HONOR MAN Pfc. P. L. Taniguchi Humble, Texas Recruited by Staff Sgt. J. J. Rojas	 <i>Platoon 2081</i> PLATOON HONOR MAN Pfc. A. M. Magana Sacramento, Calif. Recruited by Staff Sgt. D. R. Weathers	 <i>Platoon 2082</i> PLATOON HONOR MAN Pfc. J. W. Leammon Boise, Idaho Recruited by Sgt. P. A. Finzel	 <i>Platoon 2079</i> HIGH SHOOTER (239) Pfc. T. M. Solberg Littleton, Colo. Recruited by Sgt. F. J. Bernard	 <i>Platoon 2077</i> HIGH PFT (298) Lance Cpl. T. L. Gruber Ogden, Utah Recruited by Staff Sgt. D. V. Velis
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GOLF COMPANY

SECOND RECRUIT TRAINING BATTALION
Commanding Officer
Lt Col. V. A. Ary
Chaplain
Lt. Cdr. E. S. Pease
Sergeant Major
Sgt. Maj. T. T. Hoskins
Battalion Drill Master
Gunnery Sgt. P. Duncan

COMPANY G
Commanding Officer
Capt. J. Norris
Company First Sergeant
1st Sgt. D. J. Plorin
Company Corpsmen
Petty Officer 3rd Class
J. M. Columna
Seamen A. Smith

SERIES 2077
Series Commander
Capt C. T. Hall
Series Gunnery Sergeant
Staff Sgt. J. A. Acero

SERIES 2081
Series Commander
Capt J. E. Mansel
Series Gunnery Sergeant
Gunnery Sgt. A. T. Leal

PLATOON 2077
Senior Drill Instructor
Staff Sgt. D. L. Barrett
Drill Instructors
Staff Sgt. K. A. Mobley
Sgt. C. N. Mancio
Sgt. K. D. Pirtle

Pfc. J. S. Adsit
Pvt. D. C. Agee
Pvt. J. M. Aguilarfuentes
Pvt. D. Alvarado
Pvt. J. A. Arriaga
Pvt. C. R. Asmussen
*Pfc. B. M. Barry
*Pfc. A. L. Bartoli
Pfc. T. D. Birk
Pvt. T. K. Brayer
Pvt. J. S. Buell
Pvt. D. G. Burwick
*Pfc. D. R. Butler
Pvt. C. Caiceros
Pvt. E. S. Castor
Pvt. C. W. Caulkins
Pvt. R. B. Cavei
Pvt. D. I. Geiger
Pfc. J. A. Christian
Pvt. A. Cipriandiaz
Pfc. K. R. Davis
Pvt. C. S. Dickson
Pvt. S. Duran
Pvt. K. R. Duvalley
Pfc. C. D. Eardley

Pvt. M. R. Edwards
Pvt. A. Estrada
Pvt. J. D. Ganci
Pvt. T. R. Garcia
Pfc. G. M. Gibson
Pvt. Z. J. Glenn
Pvt. T. E. Gomez III
Pvt. K. F. Griffin
*Lance Cpl. T. L. Gruber
Pfc. F. Guerra Jr.
Pfc. J. Guerra
Pfc. M. Guiltart
Pfc. E. M. Jones
Pvt. R. A. Lopez
Pvt. A. D. Newman
Pfc. W. L. Purslow
Pvt. E. Ramos III
Pvt. R. A. Rey
Pvt. B. S. Snyder
Pfc. E. M. Tucker
Pfc. T. D. Wiley
Pvt. B. L. Yates

PLATOON 2078
Senior Drill Instructor
Staff Sgt. J. L. Clark
Drill Instructors
Sgt. R. C. McGaughey
Sgt. A. G. Deascanis
Sgt. D. Ramirez

Pvt. M. J. Armstrong
Pvt. L. A. Ash
Pvt. A. R. Baker
Pvt. M. B. Bartram
Pvt. O. H. Begay
*Pfc. A. H. Behrends
Pvt. J. C. Benson
Pvt. L. E. Brown
*Pfc. D. E. Bunch
Pvt. R. D. Butler Jr.
Pvt. C. D. Conlee
Pvt. B. M. Cimera
Pvt. J. M. Cole
Pvt. K. C. Collins
Pvt. J. W. Connell
Pvt. C. L. Cotter
Pvt. S. A. Danielson
Pfc. D. V. Dearing
Pfc. J. C. Debard
Pvt. R. T. Delaporte
Pvt. D. R. Deniger
Pfc. A. R. Dennison
Pvt. R. M. Eckmann
Pvt. R. J. Evanoff
Pvt. B. W. Fitzgerald III
Pvt. B. A. Flohe
Pvt. D. I. Geiger
Pfc. J. W. Goerz
Pfc. A. A. Gonzalez
*Pfc. M. W. Gray
Pvt. G. C. Hagedorn
Pvt. J. M. Hamilton
Pvt. C. T. Hanson
Pvt. A. A. Hill

Pvt. R. N. Hinson
Pvt. K. J. Horvath
Pvt. Z. B. James
Pvt. Z. A. Martin
Pfc. F. J. McGovern
Pfc. M. T. Miller
Pvt. G. W. Nicholas
Pvt. D. R. Prebula
Pfc. R. M. Schneidewind
Pvt. K. A. Stedham
Pvt. B. McDermott

PLATOON 2079
Senior Drill Instructor
Sgt. A. Madrid
Drill Instructors
Sgt. J. M. Lopez
Sgt. B. Borjion III
Sgt. J. A. Dow
Staff Sgt. E. Martinez

Pfc. M. J. Allen Jr.
Pvt. R. D. Andrade Jr.
Pvt. B. M. Beechum
Pvt. J. Beltran
Pvt. A. Bretado
Pvt. J. T. Campbell
Pvt. J. M. Dantonio III
Pvt. G. V. Espinoza
Pvt. S. A. Fielding
Pvt. C. S. Greener
Pvt. J. D. Gudex
Pvt. L. Guerreromacias
Pvt. R. A. Hampt
Pvt. B. D. Holland
Pvt. J. A. Holler
Pvt. A. R. Hotchkiss
*Pfc. P. G. Hubbard
Pvt. L. P. Ibarra
Pvt. J. B. Langford
Pvt. C. J. Lenton
Pvt. J. L. Loveless
Pvt. C. L. Lubinski
Pfc. M. C. Madero
Pvt. C. M. Madosik
Pvt. T. A. Moore
Pvt. J. R. Mosher
Pvt. Z. O. Mukahal
Pfc. M. R. Parra
Pvt. T. R. Pilkington
Pvt. D. Pormaner
Pvt. J. W. Rosner
Pvt. C. M. Rothblatt
Pvt. J. P. Salvetti
Pfc. T. M. Solberg
Pvt. P. W. Stewart
Pfc. P. L. Taniguchi
Sgt. L. A. Ham
Pvt. S. C. Thurman
Pvt. M. R. Thurman
Pvt. S. A. Vallejo
Pvt. S. P. Vivirito
Pvt. J. M. Wells
Pfc. J. L. Wickens
*Pfc. B. T. Wray
Pvt. G. K. Wright

*Pfc. J. S. Wright
Pfc. J. D. Yost

PLATOON 2081
Senior Drill Instructor
Staff Sgt. J. A. Sheets
Drill Instructor
Staff Sgt. D. A. McGregor
Sgt. W. A. Wintfrey

Pfc. M. C. Agunon
Pfc. J. W. Alter
Pvt. M. Aparicioagular
Pvt. A. Arzatemaldonado
Pfc. J. Z. Beach
Pvt. J. M. Brown
Pvt. T. S. Caboro
Pfc. G. A. Cloud
Pvt. D. C. Daniel Jr.
Pvt. A. C. Devenecia
*Pfc. E. K. Fejgran
Pvt. M. A. Felix
Pfc. Z. K. Fowler
Pvt. D. G. Frazier
*Pfc. J. A. Garcia
Pvt. C. R. Grove
Pvt. B. L. Jones
Pvt. S. R. Kelley
Pvt. C. M. Kelley
Pvt. J. T. Kleefisch
Pvt. M. D. Laccson
Pvt. J. T. Lewis
Pfc. A. M. Magana
Pvt. B. B. Miller
Pfc. K. A. Mitchell
Pvt. R. A. Mitchell
Pvt. C. A. Murrayuka
Pvt. L. Nashed
Pvt. J. B. Pelton
Pvt. G. J. Plumlee
Pfc. J. K. Prince
Pfc. J. J. Pullano
Pvt. B. D. Pullen
Pvt. K. J. Roberts
Pfc. M. T. Rose
*Pfc. J. Salas Jr.
Pfc. M. A. Stroh
Pvt. D. R. Theis
Pfc. R. T. Veloz
Pvt. A. D. Villarreal
Pvt. M. V. Villarreal
Pfc. B. L. White

Pvt. G. D. Coeli
Pfc. J. O. Dierking
Pvt. W. K. Handel III
Pvt. B. K. Hinchew
Pfc. B. S. Houk III
Pfc. E. J. Hunt
Pvt. A. Kays
*Pfc. M. A. Keeton
Pfc. J. W. Leammon
Pvt. R. J. Lemley
Pvt. G. J. Lewis
Pvt. B. B. Love
Pfc. J. C. Marston
Pvt. Z. R. Martin
Pfc. C. M. McCrady
Pfc. C. S. Meiles
Pvt. J. J. Mendoza
Pfc. G. A. Cloud
Pvt. J. T. Mercedes III
Pfc. J. M. Mercure Jr.
Pvt. J. A. Miller
Pvt. J. M. Moody
Pvt. B. Moon
Pvt. D. W. Moralesvaldes
Pvt. D. R. North
Pfc. M. R. Nurczyk
Pvt. J. C. Ortizmelara
Pfc. T. J. Pedersen
Pfc. N. J. Petschki
Pvt. A. D. Pollock
Pvt. M. T. Preston
Pvt. A. D. Reagan
*Pfc. J. D. Richards
Pvt. J. E. Rivera
Pvt. J. Rubio
Pvt. M. D. Sanford
*Pfc. J. L. Sheffield
Pvt. J. C. Shipp
Pfc. J. D. Sorter
Pfc. J. P. Soto
Pvt. N. W. Sweet
Pvt. J. L. Walker
Pvt. G. M. Williams



Recruits with Platoon 2082, Company G stack rifles during final drill.

Pvt. N. V. Lagrassa
Pfc. E. Laisure
Pvt. M. A. Laudicina
Pvt. D. C. Leifson
*Pfc. B. M. Lindstrom
Pfc. K. T. Mack
Pfc. D. R. Marek
Pvt. J. A. Martinez
Pvt. A. T. May
Pfc. F. Morales
Pvt. D. R. Mueller
Pvt. K. K. Nguyen
Pvt. L. A. Ortega

Pvt. R. Phang
Pvt. A. J. Podraza
Pfc. A. E. Prostrullo
Pvt. A. C. Reiss
Pfc. N. D. Reyburn
Pvt. E. D. Reyes
Pvt. W. B. Robinson
Pvt. A. Rodriguez IV
Pfc. M. D. Schuelke
Pvt. Z. K. Shaver
Pvt. C. A. Shipp
Pfc. B. A. Smith
Pvt. J. L. Souverbielle

Pvt. A. L. Taylor
Pvt. D. Villalobos
Pvt. J. W. Westenskow
*Pfc. M. A. Williams
Pfc. J. A. Wold
*Pfc. A. J. Zovath

*Meritorious promotion



Platoon 2082, Company G, performs rifle salutes during final drill. Part of the inspection of the recruits is their instant obedience to orders. Pfc. Charlie Chavez/Chevron photos



Corporal Brent E. Stevenson, Headquarters and Service Battalion, took first place in the Commanding General's Cup billiards tournament Tuesday. Stevenson beat 19 competitors during the two-hour tournament. Pfc. Charlie Chavez/Chevron

H&S takes first place in CG's Cup billiards tourney

BY PFC. CHARLIE CHAVEZ
Chevron staff

Headquarters and Service Battalion won the Commanding General's Cup billiards tournament at the depot recreation center Tuesday.

Twenty-seven players entered the tournament but eight didn't participate, which lowered the competition to 19 contestants.

As the 19 dwindled to four, playing best-two-out-of-three games, the intensity jumped when Maj. Ron Capes, H&S Bn., played Sgt. Shawn D. Lounsbury, 12th Marine Corps District. Capes beat Lounsbury, clutching a spot for the championship game.

For the second spot in the championship game, Cpl.

Brent E. Stevenson, H&S Bn., faced-off against Kenny Seaman, H&S Bn. Stevenson beat Seaman pitting him against Capes in the championship.

In the first-of-three games, Capes played the combination 4 ball against the 9 in the corner pocket winning the first match.

Not to be outplayed, Stevenson won the second game after Capes missed the first shot after the break. He then played the 1 into the 9 ball in the corner winning.

The final game of the trilogy resulted in back and fourth play until the 9 ball was all that was left. Capes missed a long shot on the ball and Stevenson nailed a difficult shot in the corner pocket winning.

"I was very happy to win because I'm a competitive person and I take pool seriously," said Stevenson. "In the

last game I just couldn't get the right shot."

Lounsbury beat Kenny two to one in the game for third place.

Last year's champion, Recruit Training Regiment's Gunnery Sgt. Timothy Walker couldn't participate due to commitments, and last year's runner-up 1st Sgt. Dathan Edwards, Recruit Training Regiment, has left the depot.

"Today's turn out wasn't as big as last-years, but we did have a lot of interest for an eight ball tournament and the number of participants in all our sports has increased," said Rachel Dickinson, sports coordinator.

The Commanding General's Cup softball season begins Wednesday. For more information contact Rachel Dickinson at (619) 524-0548.

Battalion staff spends day at Petco, builds shop camaraderie

BY LANCE CPL. DORIAN GARDNER
Chevron staff

Headquarters and Service Battalion office spent half a day away from the office to build camaraderie and sportsmanlike rivalry while watching the San Diego Padres game May 11 at

Petco Park.

More than a dozen Marines from H&S Company offices took a trip downtown to watch the Padre's beat the Milwaukee Brewer's 8-5. This was the first time the battalion commander, Col. Matthew D. Redfern, took his Marines out to the ball game.

Taking time to come together as an office, battalion staff got an opportunity to get closer to one another outside the work atmosphere.

"It is important because when you spend five days a week, nine to 10 hours a day with someone, you want to have a healthy relationship," said Cpl. Mari-

sol Melendez, Headquarters Company training noncommissioned officer.

"Outings like this allow us to get to know each other on a more informal level.

"It is a lot more relaxed because of the civilian attire," said Melendez. "We are not in (camouflage uniforms) and we are not on base. We are just hanging out at a baseball game."

Melendez enjoyed sitting with the Marines, behind the right field, to watch the Padre's reign terror on the Brewer's, even though she is an avid Dodger's fan.

With this game being the first office event outside the depot, Marines from the battalion staff have always found something to do with one another, whether it was physical training or playing a sport.

"We do have the indoor volleyball games," said Melendez. "We have never done this before."

Staff events at a Padre's game are much different from playing volleyball, according to Melendez, who has been in the office nearly a year.

One of the office clerk Marines she works with, Lance Cpl. Adam Kee, said the office staff is pretty close and saw the benefit of heading out on the town.

"It is like a family here," said Kee.

After getting their fill of hotdogs, pizza and cold drinks, the Marines car-avanned back to the depot recharged.



Sgt. Joshua J. Carlton, in sunglasses, and Cpl. Marisol Melendez share laughs at a San Diego Padres game. Lance Cpl. Dorian Gardner/Chevron